

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 AID-20 IO-14 /128 W

----- 057416

R 280940Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1892

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0746

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS PFOR ET SO

SUBJ: SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS

1. ITALIAN BUSINESSMAN CAPONE, 50-YEAR RESIDENT AND LONG-TIME FRIEND OF SIAD, BACK IN MOGADISCIO ON VISIT, SPENT TWO AND ONE HALF HOURS WITH PRESIDENT MAY 23. DURING WIDE-RANGING AND SEEMINGLY FRANK CONVERSATION, HE BLUNTLY ASKED PRESIDENT ABOUT RUMORS THAT GSDR PLANNED ATTACK ETHIOPIA AFTER OAU SUMMIT. CAPONE TOLD ME SIAD SAID HEHAD NO SUCH PLANS. TIME WAS ON SOMALIA'S SIDE. THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA WAS DETERIORATING AND PROSPECTS FOR SOMALIA ACQUIRING OGADEN IN LONG RUN WERE IMPROVING. IT WOULD BE FOOLISH FOR GSDR TO RISK DISRUPTING FAVOR-ABLE PROGRESS OF EVENTS BY MILITARY ACTION.

2. COMMENT: SEEMS TO US LIKELY THAT SIAD'S COMMENTS TO CAPONE IN FACT REPRESENT HIS POSITION. (CAPONE, FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, FELT SIAD WAS BEING FRANK.) SOMALI NEWS AGENCY MAY 26 DESPATCH QUOTES SENIOR MILITARY SPOKESMAN AS STATING (WITH APPARENT REFERENCE TO MAY 16 OGADEN INCIDENTS - MOGADISCIO 726) THAT THERE WAS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI TROOPS BUT THAT "THERE WERE NO CLASHES AND BOTH SIDES AGREED TO RETURN TO THEIR BASES". SOMALI PUBLIC AND DIPLOMATIC HANDLING OF THIS INCIDENT REINFORCES OUR IMPRESSION THAT GSDR DOES NOT

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RPT NOT WISH TO EXACERBATE SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN TENSIONS AT THIS

TIME.  
KIRK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974MOGADI00746  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740133-0272  
**From:** MOGADISCIO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PFOR, ET, SO, (CAPONE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005